Dear Friends –

There was a moment I recently experienced at an Audubon Center here in Texas that I would like to share with you.

I stood in the back of the group of students and watched light shimmering in the children’s eyes as they took in the full majesty of the Red-tailed Hawk perched on the trainer’s arm. The captivated students were so enraptured by the grace and power of one of Texas’ largest resident birds of prey that the words of the Audubon educator telling the hawk’s story seemed lost in the background. In the hawk’s unblinking gaze were thousands of years of instinct and natural balance – success and failure, triumph and defeat, the generational struggle to not just survive, but to thrive. It was in that moment I realized we were more than just teachers and advocates…we are all students of one of most important lessons of our lives.

Renaissance is one of the words that come to mind when I reflect on the last year at Audubon in Texas. From deep in the heart of this Texan, my thanks to all of you who have helped us make very meaningful steps in this latest chapter of our conservation journey. This report is a testament to what we are capable of together. Thank you.

Your partner in Texas,

Brian Trusty
Executive Director, Audubon Texas
Vice President, National Audubon Society
Education

Nakia Douglas, Principal of Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy, Dallas, Texas

Our Audubon Centers in Dallas, Cedar Hill, San Antonio, and Brownsville serve Texas communities with hands-on programs designed to inspire stewardship, strengthen science skills, and engage people in meaningful conservation action. Each year we introduce tens of thousands of families, individuals, and students to wild Texas as a source of life-long learning and enriched life.

During 2012-2013, your generosity supported strategic expansion of our educational programs as well as producing critical outcomes. We provided after-school programs, day camps, overnight campouts, conservation workshops, festivals, field trips, citizen science initiatives, nature clubs, river floats, and teacher seminars. Most importantly, the young people who participated in our programs became excited about science, more connected to nature, and better aware of their personal responsibility to conserve and protect our amazing state.

Thank you for helping to grow our passion to get kids outside!

Nature Education preparing the next generation of Texas conservationists

As a campus administrator, I constantly seek to develop partnerships with organizations that support our instruction and extend the learning environment beyond the classroom for our students. One of our greatest educational partners in this journey is the Trinity River Audubon Center. Through activities provided at the Center, our young men have conducted research on natural habitats, participated in preservation lessons and community services projects for the environment. Thank you to our Trinity River Audubon Center family for supporting our work at Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy.

Statewide, we nurture and serve 50,000+ students, 7,000+ teachers, and 50+ partner school districts with our powerful hands-on programs.

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center; San Antonio, TX

Trinity River Audubon Center; Dallas, TX

Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center; Cedar Hill, TX

Sabal Palm Audubon Sanctuary; Brownsville, TX

Managed by our partner Gorgas Science Foundation
Why birds? Birds are excellent indicators of ecosystem health because they are an environmental proxy – the literal canary in the coalmine for the health of our land. By protecting birds and their habitats, Audubon protects landscapes and resources that support the rich biodiversity of Texas and protects the natural and human communities of which birds are an essential part.
From the Big Bend to the Big Thicket, from the High Plains to the Rio Grande Valley, Texas is a dynamic and biodiverse landscape with significant conservation need. Audubon is committed to protecting conservation at scale in the focal areas of the Texas Coast, the vastness of our prairies and grasslands, and our growing urban landscapes.

**COASTAL** – In 2013 Audubon celebrated our 90th year of being a coastal steward in Texas. Audubon Texas manages 178 islands that stretch across 70% of the Texas Coast, by restoring and protecting these habitats for birdlife that stretch across 70% of the Texas Coast. Audubon Texas announced the roll-out of this program as a part of National Audubon’s Bird Friendly Communities Initiative.

In your support, you are a part of a community where birds thrive, people prosper, and we work together to take care of Texas.

**URBAN** – Fueled by a booming economy, Texas is experiencing rapid population growth and is home to eight of the 15 fastest growing large cities in the United States. A staggering 85% of Texans live in a major metropolitan area today. Our Urban Conservation Program engages municipalities, local governments, and urban residents in meaningful conservation planning to protect the quality and supply of our precious natural resources and healthy urban habitats. In 2013 Texas announced the roll-out of this program as a part of National Audubon’s Bird Friendly Communities Initiative.

In your support, you are a part of a community where birds thrive, people prosper, and we work together to take care of Texas.

**REDDESH EGRET**

If you’ve never spied a single Reddish Egret stirring up fish in the shallow waters of our Texas bays you should put it on your bucket list. Graceful Reddish Egrets are one of our rarest and most amazing wader from our waters. If you’ve never spied a single Reddish Egret stirring up fish in the shallow waters of our Texas bays you should put it on your bucket list. Graceful Reddish Egrets are one of our rarest and most amazing wader from our waters. Their plumage comes in both red and white and for this reason plumage hunters nearly eliminated this amazing wader from our waters. Reddish Egrets are one of our rarest waders, Texas is prized to host the largest single nesting island for Reddish Egret in the United States.

**LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN**

Largely misunderstood as a difficult species to protect, the Lesser Prairie-Chicken is truly a Texas at heart with its love of large, wide open spaces. This species struggles in many western states to maintain viable populations and continues to be threatened by habitat loss through development and disturbance. Despite the provocative debate to list or not to list the Lesser Prairie-Chicken as an endangered species, no one can argue that preserving the productive habitats of this iconic prairie and grassland bird results in incredible prairie and grassland conservation.

**WHOOPING CRANE**

The gangly grace of one of North America’s most endangered animals has become a symbol for conservation need and the focus on priority species. Whooping Cranes depend upon wetland and marsh environments that are located throughout their migration path from the Texas coast, up through the Prairie potholes of the Dakotas and Canada. Recent droughts and decreases in freshwater flows reaching these vital wintering grounds near Aransas and San Antonio Bays have made it difficult for these birds to find enough food to survive. Whooping cranes act as umbrella species for the entire systems on which they depend; conservation efforts to restore wetlands for Whooping Cranes preserve some of the most robust ecosystems in the hemisphere.

**GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER**

This little endangered songbird has been the environmental proxy through which tremendous conservation efforts have succeeded in multiple locations throughout the state. Once an abundant species, the Golden-cheeked Warbler has steadily declined to endangered status because of severe loss of habitat and ecological competition. Nesting nowhere in the world but central Texas and Hill Country habitats, this colorful conservation ambassador has stimulated the preservation and protection of thousands of acres of native habitat including areas within some of our fastest growing urban centers Travis Audubon Society certainly leads efforts in the Texas as a champion of urban conservation focused on a critical bird species, the Golden-cheeked Warbler.
The Texas Audubon Network partners, volunteers, and chapters

**Partners**
- 50+ partner school districts
- Accenture
- American Bird Conservancy
- Animal Nature Club
- Baptist Mission Church
- Big Thought
- Big Society of America/Cat Scouts of America
- Boys & Girls Club of America
- Coastal Bend Bird and Biodiversity Program
- Cedar Hill State Park
- City of Cedar Hill
-克莱尔博物馆
- Crow Collection of Asian Art
- Dallas Baptist University
- Dallas County Community College District
- Dallas Museum of Art
- Dallas Zoo
- Deloitte
- Energy IOE
- Ernst & Young
- Founders Garden Club of Dallas
- Galveston Bay Estuary Program
- Galveston Bay Foundation
- Gardening/Volunteers of South Texas
- George Science Foundation
- Groundwork Dallas
- Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
- John Burkle Sand Wetland Center
- JPPInstitute Chow Foundation
- Kay/Panne Conservancy
- Latino Cultural Center
- Louisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility
- College of the Marshall
- Mexican Consulate
- Nasher Sculpture Center
- National Charity League
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- National Plant Society of Texas
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Chapters**
- Audubon Dallas
- Bastrop County Audubon Society
- Bexar Audubon Society
- Big Country Audubon Society
- Central Texas Audubon Society
- Coastal Bend Audubon Society
- El Paso Trans-Pecos Audubon Society
- Fort Worth Audubon Society
- Golden Triangle Audubon Society
- Houston Audubon Society
- Huntsville Audubon Society
- Llano Estacado Audubon Society
- Midland/Hockley Audubon Society
- Panhandle & Frio Audubon Society
- Rio Grande Delta Audubon Society
- Texas Panhandle Audubon Society
- Travis Audubon Society
- Twin Lakes Audubon Society
- Tyler Audubon Society

**Volunteers**
- We join our partners, Geosy Science Foundation, in celebrating the opening of the newly restored 1892 Rabb Plantation home!
- The house serves as the new visitor center for Sabal Palm Sanctuary (Brownsville, TX), a 527-acre preserve that is home to a wonderful assortment of birds and other wildlife and one of the last stands of old-growth Sabal Palm in the United States.
- Our widespread network of local action delivers powerful impact for nature in Texas.

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Donor Spotlight

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Lonnie & Jenny Samford, members of the American Kestrel Society, Austin, TX

Audubon’s Texas Women in Conservation Program recognizes outstanding women leaders in today’s conservation movement throughout the Lone Star State, supports opportunities in Texas for girls and women to become more involved in conservation and environmental sciences, and engages women on important issues related to conservation in Texas. All gifts in support of this award and all proceeds from Audubon’s annual luncheon will support the enhancement of citizen science, conservation, and educational activities in Texas that focus on engaging women and girls in stewardship and conservation of the natural world.

Audubon Texas and Houston Audubon Society will co-host the first annual luncheon benefiting Audubon’s new Texas Women in Conservation Program in Houston in February 2015, during which an inaugural and esteemed group of outstanding women leaders in today’s conservation movement throughout the Lone Star State will be presented with the Terry Hershey Texas Women in Conservation Award.

Terry Hershey has devoted and invested substantial passion, time, energy, and resources in significant conservation projects in Houston and throughout Texas. In honor of this well-known “force of nature for nature,” Audubon is honored to name Terry Hershey Texas Women in Conservation Awards for Mrs. Hershey.

The nature of her business is nature.
Protecting our birds and our bayous, our parks and our prairies, our rivers and our streams, our wild things and our wild places. She’s been aptly described by just about everybody as a force of nature. And you could hardly find a better characterization of Terry Hershey.

Carter Smith, Executive Director of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, TX

We are proud to report 90% of every dollar contributed to Audubon Texas goes directly to conservation and education programs in the Lone Star State.

Donor Spotlight

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Lonnie & Jenny Samford, members of the American Kestrel Society, Austin, TX

A premier recognition society for generous donors who give $1,000 or more annually to Audubon Texas, including gifts to its Audubon Centers and conservation programs.

Member privileges will include:

- Exclusive invitations to Audubon Texas events
- Insider reports from the Executive Director
- Recognition in annual reports and online communications
- Early registration for Audubon Texas travel opportunities
- Private tours of our Audubon Centers

Financial Summary

We are proud to report 90% of every dollar contributed to Audubon Texas goes directly to conservation and education programs in the Lone Star State.

Revenue

- Corporations 20%
- Earned Revenue 10%
- Government Grants 3%
- Foundations 25%
- Individuals 42%

Expenses

- Administration 10%
- Center Operations 32%
- Conservation 20%
- Education Programs 38%
### Honor Roll of Donors

#### 2012-2013

Audubon Texas sincerely appreciates these generous donors who gave $1,000 or more to support our programs between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013. To all of our donors, thank you for your philanthropic investment and passion for the natural world that Audubon Texas strives to protect.

$18,000 AND MORE

- Texas American Health Services
- City of Cedar Hill
- MCFA foundation
- Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
- Mary P. McDermott Charitable Trust
- The Ballenger Foundation
- ExxonMobil Foundation
- The White Foundation
- Dr. and Mrs. A. Farrow-Gillespie

**Gift Recognition Statement**

For comments or questions, please contact audubontexas@audubon.org. To ensure the accuracy of this information, error or omissions are possible. For comments or questions, please contact audubontexas@audubon.org.

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### 2012-2013 Honor Roll of Donors strength in numbers

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<th>Tier</th>
<th>Donor Name</th>
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<td>$25,000 - $49,999</td>
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<td>Clifford L. and Bonnie Thomson</td>
<td>The Boone Family Foundation</td>
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<td>The Dallas Foundation</td>
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<td>Mary McDermott Cook</td>
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<td>City of Cedar Hill</td>
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<td>Anonymous</td>
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<td>$100,000 AND MORE</td>
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<td>Our Partners</td>
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### Our Partners

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### General Legacy Society

The General Legacy Society recognizes those thoughtful donors who have included National Audubon Society in their estate plans. These members' legacies will ensure the continuity and financial health of the amazing organization Audubon Texas can be proud of.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legacy Gift Designated to Audubon Texas program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Audubon Society</td>
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<td>Texas Audubon Society of San Antonio</td>
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<td>Texas Audubon Society of San Antonio Foundation</td>
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Moving Forward

We at Audubon are in awe of our natural world. Its resiliency, its unwavering rhythm, its contrary serenity, and its incredible capacity to improve the human spirit.

We believe we’re living in a dangerous and important time, when even the smallest choice – to protect or destroy, to deplete or conserve, discard or reuse – holds weight in the balance of nature.

And we believe nature is a human right.

That our children have a right to the kind of natural experience that feeds the soul and quiets the mind. That they should be able to experience the prairies and rivers and forests they learn about in history books, as history’s subjects experienced them.

At Audubon, we’re leaving the legacy of our natural heritage.

And we’re creating a Texas where conservation is the way of life.

Your philanthropic investment is essential to our continued success. Thank you for your partnership in Texas conservation!